

Docket No.: 61352-046

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of | : | Customer Number: 20277 |
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| Yasuo TAKEBE, et al. | : | Confirmation Number: |
| | : | |
| Serial No.: | : | Group Art Unit: |
| | : | |
| Filed: October 30, 2003 | : | Examiner: Unknown |
| | : | |
| For: | | METHOD OF OPERATING FUEL CELL SYSTEM AND FUEL CELL SYSTEM |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop IDS
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

Serial No.:

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Haag', written over the printed name.

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Date: October 30, 2003

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| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (PTO-1449) | | | | ATTY. DOCKET NO. 61352-046 | | SERIAL NO. | |
| | | | | APPLICANT Yasuo TAKEBE, et al. | | | |
| | | | | FILING DATE October 30, 2003 | | GROUP | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER'S INITIALS | CITE NO. | Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | US | 6,068,942 | 05/30/2000 | Strasser et al. | | |
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| EXAMINER'S INITIALS | CITE NO. | Foreign Patent Document Country Codes - Number 4 - Kind Codes (if known) | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | | Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | JP P2002-93448A | | 03/29/2002 | OSAKA GAS CO LTD | | |
| | | JP P2000-260454A | | 09/22/2000 | OSAKA GAS CO LTD | | |
| | | JP P3297125 | | 04/12/2002 | MITSUBISHI HEAVY IND LTD | | |
| | | JP 2542096 | | 07/25/1996 | MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORP | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER'S INITIALS | CITE NO. | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | | | | | |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.